

LEPC/DES/E-9-1-1
MINUTES OF MEETING

Wednesday, June 2nd, 2021
7:30 a.m. - Columbus Fire Hall
944 E Pike Ave, Columbus, MT 59019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Pronovost, Chip Kem, Gary Timm, Kevin Ray, Terry Brumfield, Shane Warehime, Rich Cowger, Marlo Pronovost, Nick Jacobs, Maureen Wiltshire, Steph Ray, Brenden Wiltshire, Kevin Mitchum, Natasha Sailer, Randy Smith

I. Call to Order

- a. Pledge to the Flag
- b. Introductions
- c. Natasha motioned to approve minutes. Randy Smith seconded. Minutes approved as presented.

II. DES

- a. Kevin Mitchum. May 12th – There were 26 participants in the emergency response tailings pond exercise. Exercise scenario was a breach of Hartzler impoundment near Nye resulting in flooding from Stillwater River in conjunction with an earthquake. Feedback received from participants was good communication, good turnout, highly motivated team, great discussion/debrief. Proposed to do another exercise in the fall. Was mentioned that resource management would be a challenge during an event like this. Action items: Compile a list of Sibayne Stillwater employees for Code Red; establish clear, defined transportation routes/alternates for evacuation purposes; update emergency response plan to establish incident commanders; ensure everyone has the most recent emergency response plan. Tailings site is located on the Sibayne Stillwater Mine site. Investigate options to reduce reporting time between notification of event and response. GIS to evaluate event population distribution and higher ground evacuation safety zones. Provide a contact list of responders to affected organizations. Note that Sibayne Stillwater operates through a dispatch system.

June 23rd from 10 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. the Mine will hold a virtual community meeting. This will be an education opportunity for landowners that may be impacted by an event at the Mine. There are approximately 600 landowners that could be affected. Part of the program will include education on 'what are tailings' and the 'tailings pond', and how the response would roll out in the event of a breach. Kevin will be sending out mailers soon with the invitation and notification. Bill will send the link to have people sign up for Code Red.

- b. Message board – Bill has no update

III. PDM Update

- a. Maureen. This week's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting was the final meeting. A Draft version will be available in September and Maureen will have a presentation ready for the LEPC to review the plan.

IV. E-9-1-1

- a. Sheriff Kem. Update on radio equipment in dispatch. Project is underway.

V. LEPC

- a. Will meet after this meeting to discuss the choice of future exercises, plane crash, school shooter.

VI. PHEP

- a. Natasha. Vaccines are ongoing. Campylobacter season from calving is in full swing. Be aware of this and watch for flooding issues. Drowning and communicable diseases are present in high water.
- b. Eight additional AEDs have been secured through a grant. They are placed in various community areas. The new AED kits also have 'stop the bleed' kits with them that include a tourniquet gauze and pressure bandages. Some of the AEDs need new pads which can be ordered through Billings Clinic. Email picture of the pads to Natasha and she will get them ordered.

VII. ROAD NAMES

- a. None

VIII. COMMUNICATION

- a. N/A

IX. FIRE WARDEN

- a. Maureen. Will be watching the hot weather.
- b. Kevin. Road and Bridge is working on a list for wild fire for the road crew.
- c. Rich. Most of CA, lower central OR, WA, high fire danger. They didn't include northern rockeries ID, MT, ND in the initial assessment, however, now we are included in this map. August is predicted as a high fire hazard month. ICS teams are staffed. Type 1 teams are national resources and Type 2 teams are geographic area resources. State DNRC cat team will be doing cat camp refresher two weekends from now north of Billings. Staged event which is free to the public. They may do a live burn for this camp. Some of the Columbus crew will be attending. The helicopter should arrive mid to late June and will be available in Billings. It will be a fully set up system including man power. Several counties on the east side are going into Stage 1 restriction. There is also a Type 3 Team stationed in Missoula.

X. OTHER

- a. Stillwater Mine training with SIM trucks and emergency response training was very much appreciated.
- b. Engaging with ESCI strategic plan including a public event and information gathering process. Help shape the next 5 yr. future for the department.
- c. Bill. The trailer is operational, including a generator.